

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

AID-20 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 STR-08 CIEP-02 DRC-01 SPC-03

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R 142140Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7980

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONSUL TIJUANA UNN

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

UNCLAS MEXICO 6942

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, MX, JA

SUBJ: FOREIGN INVESTMENT: JAPANESE GROUP SEEKS
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

REF: MEXICO A-421 OF 8/16/73; A-280 OF 6/8/73

1. 'SUMMARY': A GROUP OF JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS HAS
BEEN TOURING MEXICO IN RECENT DAYS SEEKING DIRECT
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH JOINT VENTURES WITH
PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR MEXICAN FINANCIAL INSTITU-
TIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. MR. HEIJI KATO, AN OFFICIAL OF JETRO (JAPANESE
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TRADE ORGANIZATION) HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN

MEXICO CITY ON SEPTEMBER 12 TO ANNOUNCE THAT A GROUP OF JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS, REPRESENTING FIRMS WITH A JOINT PRODUCTION OF MORE THAN SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS, IS VISITING MEXICO WITH A VIEW TO ENTERING INTO JOINT VENTURES WITH MEXICAN FIRMS, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF EXPORT PRODUCTION AND SALES. AMONG THE JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS IN MEXICO IS TOOICHI MIZUNO, AN OFFICIAL OF THE JAPANESE HEAVY INDUSTRY CHAMBER. ALSO IN THE GROUP IS ANOTHER SENIOR JETRO OFFICIAL, MASATO NAKAYASHITA.

3. THE JAPANESE GROUP EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT MEXICO IS AN EXCELLENT PLACE TO INVEST FOR A NUMBER OF GOOD REASONS, INCLUDING PROXIMITY TO THE HUGE US. MARKET, CHEAP MEXICAN LABOR, THE ABUNDANCE OF RAW MATERIALS, AND ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STABILITY. THE GROUP ALREADY HAS PLANS TO VISIT AT LEAST 34 INDUSTRIAL SITES, AND OTHER FACTORIES MAY BE ADDED TO THE LIST DURING THE COURSE OF THE GROUP'S VISIT HERE. AMONG THE MANY FIELDS OF INTEREST TO THE JAPANESE ARE IRON AND STEEL AND AUTOMOTIVE PARTS, AREAS WHERE JAPAN CAN PROVIDE EXTENSIVE TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. IN ANSWER TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION, ONE JAPANESE OFFICIAL NOTED THAT THE GROUP HAD NO DIFFICULTY WITH MEXICO'S FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER LAWS, WHICH, HE NOTED, ARE VERY SIMILAR TO JAPAN'S.

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